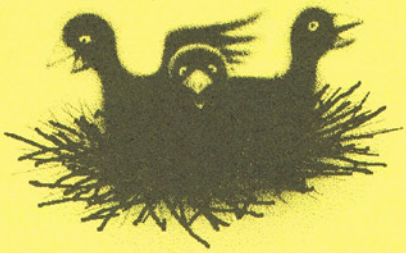
Welcome to the 12th issue of

Leys News

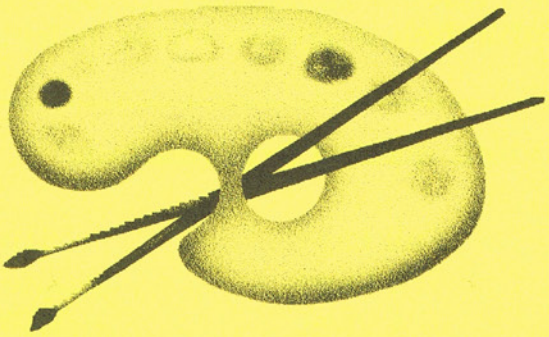


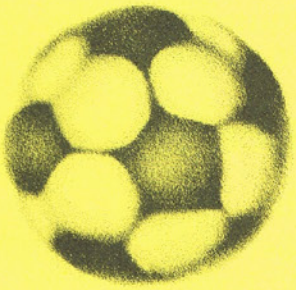
THE DOVECOTE AFTERSCHOOL CLUB IS EXPANDING

We are now open 3:15 - 4:45pm

Monday to Thursday

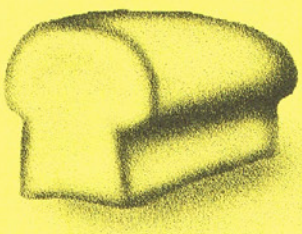
for 5 - 12 year olds





Only 50p per session.

Come Along and have Lots of Fun!



Residents Contributions

This Newsletter is for YOU to use to announce your service or event. It is here to build links across the community; to help residents get in touch with interesting, informative and fun activities and events.

The Editorial Committee are looking for more articles and letters. We'd also like cartoons, illustrations, and maybe some photos or poems. What do you want to see in this Newsletter? Tell us. There will be no charge for letters or articles from local residents, only appreciation.

Write to: **Carol Baxter**
c/o The Dovecote
Nightingale Avenue
Blackbird Leys
Oxford, OX4 5BU

The deadline for Issue 13 of Leys News is November 6th.

Issue 13 will be distributed in early December. You can send hand written contributions by post but please make sure it's legible. If you are able, we 'd like text-only files on disk. You can also send contributions by e-mail to:

paul@vernify.i-way.co.uk

We may edit any contributions received. We cannot guarantee to publish all letters sent in. The editorial committee can in no way accept responsibility for services supplied by our advertisers. For more information call **Carol Baxter on 0410 588349.**

Advertisements

This Newsletter reaches at least 5,000 doormats. You can inform people about your service or event either with an advert or an insert.

Prices vary depending on whether you are a profit-making organisation or not. Also the size of the advert affects the price. The table below shows these prices:

Profit-making Organisations

Full Page	£160
1/2 Page	£80
1/4 Page	£40
1/8 Page	£20

or Inserts: £80 per 1000.

Non-profit-making Organisations

Full Page	£80
1/2 Page	£40
1/4 Page	£20
1/8 Page	£10

or Inserts: £40 per 1000.

Distribution Service

Let Leys News take the stress and strain of making sure everyone in Blackbird Leys knows what you want them to know.

Leys News offers a low cost distribution service to local businesses, organisations, etc. Ley News will distribute your flyers, leaflets, etc when needed at the following costs:

£45 for 1,000 Leaflets or £22.50 for 500.

To post 2nd class the cost would be £200 for 1000. You would also have to pay for envelopes. For further information contact Carol Baxter on 0410 588349.

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NB: Entries in italics are advertisements.

Welcome to the 12th issue of Leys News!

The Leys News Limited became a company limited by guarantee on July 2nd 1998. We thank everyone for all their support throughout the early development of this newsletter and we look forward to a long and happy relationship with all our readers now that we are a fully fledged company. If you would like to join the editorial committee, please get in touch.

This Newsletter is produced by Leys News Ltd.
Company Number:_____

Leys News Limited require a

Leys News Development Worker

The job will involve:

- overseeing the production and distribution of Leys News.
- marketing, organising and supervising additional distributions.
- developing additional business opportunities for the company.

Salary: £8 / hour. Hours: 16 hours / week.
Ring 01869 277310 for further information.

If you would like to receive a translation of the attached, please contact your Housing Officer.

ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਨਾਲ ਭੇਜੇ ਗਏ ਕਿਤਾਬਚੇ ਦਾ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ ਤਾਂ ਮਿਹਰਬਾਨੀ ਕਰਕੇ ਆਪਣੇ ਹਾਊਸਿੰਗ ਆਫ਼ਿਸਰ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।

यदि आप को साथ में भेजी गई पुस्तिका का हिंदी अनुवाद चाहिए तो कृपया अपने हाउसिंग आफ़िसर से सपर्क कीजिये।

આ સાથેના પત્રકની નકલ જો તમારે તમારી ભાષામાં જોઇતી હોય તો તમારા હાઉઝિંગ ઓફિસરનો સંપર્ક કરવો.

اگر آپ منسلکہ کاغذات کا ترجمہ اپنی زبان میں چاہتے ہیں تو براہِ مہربانی اپنے ہاؤسنگ آفیسر سے رابطہ قائم کیجیے۔

If you can help with translation, please call Carol Baxter on 0410 588 349.

The Dovecote

The Dovecote is a local community centre providing a venue for local people to meet and work and play together. Current activities include:

Afterschool Club. 3:15 to 4:45pm for ages 5 -12. 50p per session. Now Monday through to Thursday.

New Ol' Leys Lunchtime Club. 12noon to 2pm. All ages welcome. Also Credit Union collection and Toy Library. Wednesdays.

Carers and Toddlers Group. 10am to 11:30am. All welcome. 50p per session. Also Toy Library. Thursdays.

The Blackbird Leys

Residents Association

are holding a

General Meeting

on October 13th

at 6.30 pm at the Clockhouse

The Farmhouse

Opening times for housing Association Tenants:

The Farmhouse is open from 9am to 1pm and from 2pm to 5pm Monday to Friday. Ealing Family Housing Association staff will not be available after 12noon on the first Wednesday of each month. Oxford Citizens Housing Association staff will not be available until 2pm on Wednesdays.

If you would like to see your Housing Officer PLEASE make an appointment wherever possible by phoning:

OCHA : 714509, EFHA : 712244,

Cherwell : 722711 or 717210 on Mondays 2-5pm.

The Clockhouse

A Community Centre for Senior Citizens

This Facility is on the new part of the estate, just off Nightingale Avenue. It hosts various activities, and has three day schemes.

Age Concern is running a Day Centre every Friday. This offers occasional musical performances as well as somewhere to meet others.

Inter Agency Day Care has transferred their Cedars Club from the Neighbourhood Centre on Cuddesdon Way to the Clockhouse. They run two Day Centres a week, on Tuesdays and Wednesdays between 9am and 4pm.

If anyone is concerned about an elderly friend or relative in the Blackbird Leys Area they are encouraged to contact **Age Concern on Oxford 246580.**

Are you interested in Desk Top Publishing?

Are you interested in learning how to design, layout and print the Leys News?

The Leys News team would like to hear from young people who are interested in learning the skills needed to produce this newsletter. Depending on funding sources, we may be able to offer free training, possibly leading to paid work.

Call Carol on 0410 588349.

AGE CONCERN

The Age Concern Day Centre held at the Clockhouse every Friday, has now been operational for 5 months. We have a happy, mixed ability, group of elderly people attending regularly and they enjoy a variety of activities and interests.

We are always on the look out for extra help from volunteers. The more volunteers there are the more likely it is that individual attention can be given to those requiring it and also a chance to provide more outings.

If you have any time to spare, not necessarily every week, then we would love to hear from you. It maybe that you have a special skill which could be put to good use or some time that could be used to help improve a lonely person's day. Car drivers are especially needed, on a casual basis, to help with outings locally and further afield.

If you are at all interested and want to find out more, then please call in any Friday between 10am and 3pm or you can call **Age Concern on Oxford 246580** for further information.

GOOD NEIGHBOURS NEEDED! The Parish Link Project

Could you spare a little time to help your local community?

Age Concern Oxfordshire is looking for friendly, mobile people willing to act as a link to put older people in touch with the many services we offer.

Through having a direct link between Age Concern and your parish we can provide up to date information and help for older people and their carers on issues ranging from health to benefits to keeping warm in winter.

This information that comes into Age Concern from the parishes will ensure that our services provision is as good as it can be; both now, and in the future.

We need 355 people; one for every parish in the county. Could you help in your area?

For more information and details of how to register as a "Parish Link Person" please telephone:**Julian Backhouse (Parish Link Co-ordinator) on Oxford 01865 240619, fax us on 01865 250204,** or write to us at Age Concern **Oxfordshire, The Lodge, Rivermead Centre, Abingdon Road, Oxford OX1 4XD.**

BLACKBIRD LEYS ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

1 Cuddesdon Way, Blackbird Leys, Oxford, OX4 5JH.

Afterschool Club Session

Open Monday to Friday (Term time only)

3.15 pm - 5.15. pm for ages 7 years and upwards

Only costs 40p per child, per session.

Important Notice for Parents or Guardians

B.L.A.P. runs an open access scheme in the summer which offers play opportunities in such a way that children can only be supervised whilst in the playground area. Children are free to come and go. When children leave B.L.A.P. they are no longer the responsibility of the Playworkers. We are also not able to escort children home.

Hall for Hire

(B.L.A.P.) Blackbird Leys Adventure Playground Community Play Building hall is available for hire Monday to Friday term time only from 9.30 am until 2.30 pm and on Saturdays for party's and private functions.

For further information telephone **Oxford 747704.** An answer phone is available, please leave a message and someone will get back to you.

NEW OPENING HOURS for OXFORD CITY COUNCIL LOCAL HOUSING OFFICES

All Local Housing Offices will be open all day Monday to Friday from Wednesday 2nd September 1998.

The new times are:

Monday-Thursday 9am until 5pm. Friday 9am until 4.30 pm

Also, please note our Out of Office Hours Services:

Emergency Numbers for Oxford City Council Tenants:

Housing Repairs: Freephone 0800 227676.

Gas Heating Repairs: Freephone 0800 392919.

Non emergency messages can be left by telephoning the Local Housing Offices:

Blackbird Leys, 3 Cuddesdon Way, Blackbird Leys, Oxford OX4 5JH. Telephone: 01865 718811

The Barn

A General Community Building

This large building, also on the new part of the estate, is available for hire. Details of conditions of hire and prices are available from The Farmhouse. Please drop in or call Oxford 712244.

We need you!....

The British Red Cross Oxfordshire Branch in partnership with Oxfordshire Fire Service, is launching a new valuable service in September 1998.

The Fire Victim Support Service will provide on-site practical and emotional support to the victims of household fire or flood.

The Scheme will operate with a fully equipped unit in the form of a caravanette dedicated to "call out" by the Fire Service and will initially be stationed at the Slade fire station in Oxford. The service will operate between the hours of 7.00 pm and 6.00 am, Monday to Friday, with 24 hour cover at weekends and bank holiday.

The unit can provide shower, cooking, baby care and changing facilities. There will be the use of a mobile phone for contacting insurance, friends, relatives or other agencies. Clothing, pet food and a camera for insurance photos will also be included in the equipment carried. All these services will be given without charge.

This service relies upon volunteers and more are urgently needed. Full training will be given and any expenses will be reimbursed. If you feel that you would like to help with this valuable service and would like to find out more, please contact:

Linda Chapman or Martin Gilman,
British Red Cross,
County Headquarters,
Red Cross House,
101 Banbury Road,
Oxford
OX2 6JX,
Telephone Oxford 557377

BRITISH RED CROSS: "Home from Hospital"

Could you help take the worry out of going home??

The British Red Cross "Home from Hospital" service urgently needs volunteers in this area to visit people when they first return home from hospital.

The training is interesting and all expenses are paid.
If you would like to know about this rewarding service, please contact:

Renee Robson or Berit Edwards on Oxford 221742.

Blackbird Leys Parish Council

GRANTS TO LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

The Blackbird Leys Parish Council have allocated a small sum from their budget for grants to local organisations serving the Parish of Blackbird Leys.

Local organisations are invited to write for an application form to:

THE CLERK
BLACKBIRD LEYS PARISH COUNCIL
1 CUDDESDON WAY
BLACKBIRD LEYS
OXFORD OX4 5JH

LETTERS OF APPLICATION MUST BE RECEIVED BEFORE 6TH NOVEMBER 1998.

Final applications must be received before FRIDAY 14TH NOVEMBER 1998.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Amanda Jones on winning a Volunteer Award. The certificate and gift voucher was awarded by Oxfordshire Play Association.

The award was given in recognition of Amanda's commitment and hard work within the Dovecote Voluntary Parent Committee. Amanda has helped organise and run the Dovecote Afterschool Club and Playschemes for the past three years. Without her help and the help of current new members these schemes would not available for the children.

WELL DONE AMANDA & THANKS FOR ALL YOUR HARD WORK!

Lights of Love

On Saturday 12 December a tall Christmas Tree will stand outside Sir Michael Sobell House Hospice, in the grounds of the Churchill Hospital.

SOBELL HOUSE HOSPICE

The tree will be dressed with hundreds of sparkling lights, each one carrying a loving message for someone who has died.

Donations are invited for the Lights. The money raised will go to Sobell House, which needs over £700,000 a year from charitable contributions to maintain its excellent care of those with terminal illnesses.

Everyone is invited to dedicate a light - whether their loved one died at Sobell House or elsewhere. They are also invited to complete a personal 'In Memory' page which will be bound into one of the special Lights of Love Books of Remembrance.

The Lights will be turned on for the first time by the Lord Mayor of Oxford Councillor Carole Roberts at 4.30pm on Saturday 12 December. A band will lead the short service and afterwards refreshments will be served in a marquee.

If you, or anyone you know, would like to dedicate a Light this Christmas, please call Sobell House Hospice Charity on 01865 883339 for further information.

Summer Youth Project

Did you notice anything unusual in August?

Did you see a 15 foot giraffe growing behind Windale School? Were you fingerprinted by young detectives at the main parade of shops? Did you find firemen, police, camera crews and children crowding around an empty car by the bakers? Did you see young people quizzing the Lord Mayor by the Barn? Or catch them on the radio, in the papers or on TV?

If you were one of the 200-plus young people who took part in the Summer Project then you'll know what it all was. If not you might be wondering just what was going on.

The quick answer to that is LOADS! You might remember the Summer Youth Project from the cover of the last Leys News. There was an advert for 9 different projects that 8 - 16 yr olds could get involved with for free. They were run by the Youth Centre, and involved hundreds of children over three weeks in August. All of the projects were a real success.

Each project was headed by experienced project leaders, supported by volunteers and made a real success by the young people themselves. They created the Rikki & Jerry **talkshows** for the video project, chose the sounds and styles for the music project, wrote the **play** for the drama project, designed and made the **clothes** for the fashion project, chose the subjects and developed the **films** for the photo project, led the complex performances of the **dance** project, and dreamt up and built the **giraffe-snake totem pole** for the artwork project. In between all this they also had energy for **sports** sessions!

Only with the **Detective Project** did someone else decide what happened. That, of course, was the script-writer who created the tangle of mystery deaths, hidden motives, undercover operations, and illegal activity that the young detectives had to solve. Working with two Community Beat Police Officers from a special incident Room at the parade of shops they fingerprinted suspects, quizzed witnesses and followed clues left at the scene of the crime. They picked up extra clues by watching the characters in the daily play, decoding notes dropped by suspects, and reading between the lines in the daily paper. Over 70 children helped police track down the criminal behind it all.

It wasn't only the young people who got into it. **The Lord Mayor**, Carole Roberts, enjoyed her part - even though she was 'killed off' for a While! The shopkeepers were so enthusiastic that with their detailed witness statements the young people almost solved it on the first day! Even the person behind all the killings - Molly Florey, Chair of the Parish Council - loved being involved.

News of the event caught the media's attention - so the young people had to cope with radio interviews, newspaper photographers, and TV crews buzzing around them as they got on with their detective work! Not that they really minded seeing themselves in the paper and on national TV - it's just a shame for the rest of Britain that the programme wasn't long enough to show everything else that the Summer Project had!

If you're aged 8 - 16 and you missed out this time then look out for the next holiday project - it's likely to be just as big a success!

There will be adverts about it in Leys News, and around the shops. Keep an eye on the Youth Centre window for notices about it or call the Youth Centre on 396490.

ABLE *Open Learning Centre*

- The Centre is in the library at Oxford College (Blackbird Leys site). It is open *FREE* of charge to adults (over 16) living in Oxfordshire, and helps students to improve their
  - *English and study skills*
  - *Maths and*
  - *Basic computer skills*
- Each student works independently on their own work programme.
- There are also courses in computing and English.
- We have a *FREE crèche* on *Wednesdays* from *9:30 to 11:30.*

Why not come and use us?
☎ 776334 or drop in to make an appointment.

ABLE Open Learning Centre, Oxford College
Blackbird Leys Precinct OXFORD OX4 5HN

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL LEARNING FOR LIFE

Basic Skills Service

The Cowley Training Centre is open for you...

New Skills - half-price or free!

Free computer courses for unwaged people

Computers Don't Bite Morning Course, 6 November (4 wks), 9:30 - 12:30
Internet First Steps Evening Course, 14 October (2 wks), 7:00 - 9:00pm
Internet First Steps Morning Course, 16 October (2 wks), 9:30 - 12:30
Internet First Steps Morning Course, 4 December (2 wks), 9:30 - 12:30

Other beginners' computer courses

(50% discount for unwaged people or voluntary organisations
In Touch with Computers, 5 November, 9:30 - 3:00, £40
Essentials of MS Windows 95,13 October, 9:30 - 4:30, £95
Writing for the World Wide Web, 3 November, 9:30 - 4:30, £95

Cowley Training Centre

7 Bobby Fryer Close
Cowley, Oxford, 0X4 2SR
Tel: 01865-776876

The Cowley Training Centre was opened in 1995 to make effective training available to local people and businesses. Easily accessible and only ten minutes' walk from Blackbird Leys, the Centre offers short courses with friendly, professional trainers in an attractive and relaxed environment.

Beginners in computing are especially welcome to come and learn the skills needed for many of today's jobs. Just call Jo Sheridan to find out more.

A partnership between Oxford City Council and Oxford College of Further Education.

...why not come and find out more?

BLACKBIRD LEYS

REDEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

SRB - ROUND 2 - PROJECT PROGRESS

PEGASUS COURT REDEVELOPMENT UPDATE

As many of you will have seen Pegasus Court flats have now been demolished and progress has started in laying the foundations for the new family housing and 12 self build flats planned for the site.

Ealing Family Housing Association are managing the site and will be renting out the new homes once completed.

Interest in the self build flats has been shown from more than forty young people and twenty two have now made a formal application.

TRAINING UPDATE

Building Maintenance Training

The Building Maintenance Training continues at the Oxfordshire Co-Operative Development Agency (OCDA) Training Centre.

A measure of success of the course is the number of former trainees who have gone on into full employment. While the majority of these jobs are in the building industry, a few have found the confidence to look elsewhere too. One of our trainees returned to his bus driving job and another joined his friend in Reading to lag pipes. Congratulations to all those trainees.

We are always looking to help others towards more knowledge of the Construction/ Carpentry/ Joinery Industries. You do not have to study for an NVQ, we can help you do whatever you find is a problem to finding a job. If you want to update a certain skill, such as plastering, we can help. Currently we have a trainee who is on placement and is learning the art of dry stone walling - we do not teach it, but we found a man who can!!!!

So, if you would like to train towards an NVQ in Maintenance/Carpentry or Joinery and/or Building Craft Operations, update a skill, or would like to help finding out about something new please **ring Judith on Oxford 772822** for more information.

CARE TRAINING

This training is delivered in partnership with Oxfordshire Social Services. Students work towards a recognised qualification and many achieve accreditation in NVQ Level 2 in Care. For those who complete the course many go on to find jobs.

Students also benefit from others experience, and the motivation created from meeting other carers helps.

Anyone interested in attending training courses in Adult Care should **ring Judith on Oxford 772822**.

COMMUNITY BUSINESS UPDATE

There have been several developments since the last edition on the development of Community Business on Blackbird Leys.

During October a Cleaning Company called **'Blackbird Leys Community Enterprise Limited'** will be launched to undertake commercial & domestic cleaning in the area at very competitive rates. It will be a community owned (not for profit) company employing local people. The company intends to train staff to at least NVQ level one, so that they can guarantee a quality service to their customers. A Board of Directors will run the company on a voluntary basis & there is room for more people to get involved.

In addition OCDA have been in the process of developing an accredited course for people managing community based businesses or organisations. It is intended that it will be accredited by Oxford Open College Network offering up to 2 credits at level 1 or 2. If successful the course will commence late November for 12 sessions.

For further information on these projects **contact Joanne Willett on Oxford 772822.**

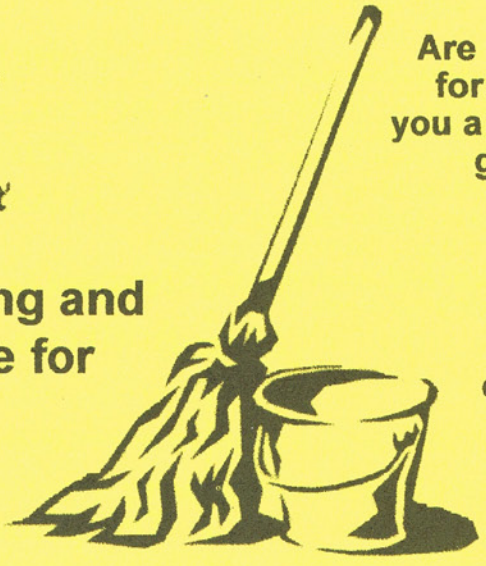
We are still looking for volunteers for a **Care Company** and a General **Maintenance Company** - if you are interested please call us for more details.

THE BLACKBIRD LEYS REDEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE IS SUPPORTED BY THE GOVERNMENTS SINGLE REGENERATION BUDGET

Compiled by Julia Tomkins Oxford City Council.

BCE
Blackbird Leys Community Enterprise Ltd
'Creating Local Employment'

A New Community Business for Blackbird Leys



To undertake cleaning and general maintenance for organisations and individuals in and around the estate.

Are you interested in working for a company who will offer you a career in cleaning, with a good starting salary, good terms and conditions of employment and NVQ training? If so BCE Limited is now recruiting cleaning staff for contract cleaning locally. Starting salary £4.25 per hour. Flexible working hours.

Call for a Free Quotation Now

For further information about our services or to apply for a position please call Rebecca Radford on Oxford 458506.

Leys Residents Association

The Farmhouse, Nightingale Avenue, Blackbird Leys, Oxford, OX4 5BU. Telephone 01865 395187.

We have a **General Meeting** scheduled on the **13th October at 6.30 pm** at the **Clockhouse** Building on Long Ground. For us it is an opportunity to do many things: we need two new committee members, and this is your opportunity to nominate someone who is prepared to contribute to work in progress that improves and maintains the Leys Estate. You can nominate yourself if you feel up to it.

It is an opportunity for us to review our performance since the present committee was elected in February, and an opportunity to discuss with us our aims and plans for the future.

We are not a committee of self-interest, but represent as fairly and accurately as possible the wishes, needs and aims of the residents, and every Leys resident is automatically a member, so please don't feel you need permission to attend our meetings. We are proud that since the present committee sat down to our offices in February, we have seldom been blocked in our aims and projects - from my own point of view, I refuse to accept the word 'no' until I have pursued my objective to the death, and cause the person who said no to examine his/her reasons and re-examine his/her decision. In short, we have found that persistence pays. We have an excellent track record to prove it.

That is the gist of the challenge. Our committee members must be prepared to apply themselves for the good of the community, to assign adequate time to fight for the rights and objectives assigned. If you feel for your community and want to improve it, complete the ballot form and return it before the 13th October, but even if you cannot commit enough to stand, come and join us at the meeting - we can hardly represent your views if we don't hear them.

Eugenia Ravens
Leys Residents Association

Your committee are:
Misbah Rishi - Chairperson
Nathan Knight - Vice Chair
Amanda Seymour
& Eugenia Ravens - Secretaries
Nicqui Rowlands - Treasurer

NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Two vacancies have recently opened for Committee Members, and we intend to vote on the issue at our General Meeting at the Clockhouse, Long Ground at 6.30 pm on Tuesday 13th October. **If you would like to nominate anyone or even yourself, please fill in the reply slip below and return it before the meeting.** Neither of the seats is an officer position, but we have a very active sub-committee as well as other plans requiring active and committed, community-minded members to get involved.

Remember, we are an active and successful residents group, with much still to achieve. If you care, and have time and energy to work to maintain and improve your estate, then this group is the group for you.

I wish to nominate the person named below to the Committee of the Leys Residents Association.

Name.....
Address.....
.....
.....
.....
Telephone:.....

Please return this form to The Farmhouse - just drop it into the letterbox.

LEISURE CENTRE ACTIVITIES

CITY LEISURE

DAY	ACTIVITY	TIME	CLASS
MONDAY	BEGINNERS AEROBICS	6 pm - 7 pm	ALL
TUESDAY	STEP AEROBICS	10 am - 11 am	ALL
	TEEN TRAINERS	4.30 pm - 5.30 pm	12 yrs - 16 yrs
	BOXACISE	7.30 pm - 8.30 pm	ALL
WEDNESDAY	TEENY TEARAWAYS	9.30 am - 10 am	WALK - 3 yr.
	TEARAWAYS	10.15 am - 11 am	3 yrs - 5 yrs
	BODY TONE	6.00 pm - 7.00 pm	ALL
	STEP	7.00 pm - 8.00 pm	ALL
	50 PLUS	7 pm - 9 pm	50 yrs & OLDER
	BINGO	7.45 pm - 9.30 pm	OVER 18's
THURSDAY	BODY BLITZ	10 am - 11 am	ALL
	YOGA	11.00 am - 12noon	ALL
	TEEN TRAINERS	4.30 pm - 5.30 pm	12 yrs - 16 yrs
FRIDAY	LEGS, BUMS & TUMS	10 am - 11 am	ALL
	ROLLER SKATING	4 pm - 5 pm	7 yrs - 13 yrs
SATURDAY	KIDZ KLUB	9.30 am - 12.30 pm	5 yrs - 11 yrs

The Centre is open

Monday - Friday: 8am - 11pm.

Saturdays: 9am - 8pm. Sundays: 9am - 9pm.

Childrens dance and gymnastics courses start in Sept '98.
Childrens half-term activity programme available now!

Blackbird Leys Leisure Centre

Pegasus Road, Blackbird Leys, Oxford, Telephone: Oxford 771565

An enterprise of OXFORD CITY COUNCIL

Letters Page

Leys News
The Dovecote
Nightingale Avenue
Blackbird Leys
Oxford
OX4 5BU

Dear Leys News,

Many of your readers will know the local Community Beat Officers who work amongst you on the Leys already. I have recently arrived as the Sergeant covering the Cowley South area, having come from Reading. I used to live in Oxford.

I look forward to meeting many of the residents both 'out and about' and in the various community meetings around the area. I have been very impressed with the **warm welcome** our officers receive and the good relationship between residents, organisations and local officers. The recent Detective Project run for school children on their school holidays was a very successful venture and a good example of this. I hope it gave parents a short break! I know the kids certainly had a lot of fun, not to mention the adults.

I know many of you have concerns about local crime and your help is essential for us to deal with this effectively. Let me draw your attention to the new **Crimestoppers Line:** FreePhone: **0800 555111**. If people have information that will assist the police then they can leave it on this number. All calls are dealt with in complete confidence and a reward may be available.

Of course, if you wish to **speak to any of the local officers** about any concerns please call on the usual number (see next page). You will probably get an answerphone but we will call you back. If there is something happening at the time which needs Police Attention then please call the Control Room or 999 in an emergency.

Sergeant Joe Kidman

Dear Leys News,

Just a brief note to congratulate you on a very interesting Leys News bulletin that you issue periodically.

I have lived on the Leys for a number of years firstly in Sandy Lane, then we built our own house also in Sandy Lane called the self build group, then we moved to our present address, also a self build group house.

Naturally I have seen a lot of changes during this time. I also think the council are doing a great job in keeping the Leys looking so neat and tidy. With the planting of trees and flowers its beginning to look quite respectable.

Looking forward to your next News Bulletin.

Mrs Copelin

A very big thank you from Leys News for your support Mrs Copelin.

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MUSIC REVIEW

Sparklehorse

The Zodiac, Oxford 24th July '98.

Two years after the release of their debut album, Sparklehorse return to these shores for a few dates promoting a new single and their second album "Good Morning Spider". They're as great as ever. Mark Linkous's voice is as fantastic and their blend of country music mixed with psychedelic rock'n' roll is absolutely charming. Quite a few songs from their first album "Vivadixiesubmarinetransmissionplot" sound as fine as they do on record. We also get a fair amount of new material to whet the appetite. They leave the stage after the third encore with the crowd still wanting more; it may be a while before something betters this!

Blackbird Leys Football Club News

The club has two teams in the RT Harris League this season. The first team plays in the premier division while the reserves play in Division 1.

There was a mixed start to the new season. The first team beat Barton 4-3 away while the reserves lost 1-5 to the Nuffield Arms at home.

Training for September / October takes place on every Thursday at the Leys Leisure Centre pitches between 6:15 and 8:00pm. Anyone interested is welcome to come along.

If you would like to sponsor one or both teams contact Andy Beal on Oxford 453666.

Useful Numbers

B.B. Leys Parish Council.....453742
Cuddesdon Family Centre.....773263
Adventure playground.....773496
Leisure Centre.....771565
Peers Sport Centre.....779348
Doctors Surgery.....778244
Advice Centre.....770206
Youth Centre.....772886
Dovecote Centre.....712299
Swimming Pool.....779348
B.B Leys Library.....770403
Health Visitors.....715689
Street Lighting.....0800 317802

Environmental Health

Abandoned Vehicles.....252818
Noise.....252556
Syringes and needles.....249811
Out of hours (Police).....266000
Dog Warden.....252914
Out of hrs Dog Warden.....240924
Pest Control.....252384
Bulky Rubbish collection.....725912

Housing

Cherwell Housing Trust: 722711 or fax 790702. Mondays 2-5pm: 717210.

Ealing Family Housing Association:

712244 or fax 712121.

Oxford Citizens Housing Association, Blackbird Leys Office:714509 or fax 717404. Head Office: 773555.

Northcote Housing Association: Oxford 712244.

Oxford City Homes: Oxford 718811.

Police

Community Beat Officers: PC 4350 Steve Fredericks, PC 4491 Martin Biddell, WPC 77 Pat McGovern and PC 2424 Bill Pennington: Oxford **266411**. Use this number for passing info to community beat officers or requests for them to contact you on a non-urgent basis.

Customer Services: This is answered in person 90% of the time. Use this number for reporting incidents that do not need police attendance. Call Oxford **266333.**

Oxford Control Room:- please ask for Oxford Control Room. To report crime or an incident that DOES require police attendance. Call Oxford **266000**.

Cowley Police Station: Oxford **749909.**

Crime Stoppers: Freephone **0800 555111.** For confidential information for Community Police Officers.

Police Emergency: Just call **999**. For threats to life or crime that is taking place as you see it, eg: an assault or burglary that is taking place.

Autumn Returns

...with the Blackbird Leys News Timetable

Mondays

After School Club: 3:15 - 4:45pm for 5 -12 yr olds, at The Dovecote. 5Op.

Taekwon-Do, Beginners 6:30 - 8:30pm, at the Barn. Adults £2.50. Juniors £2.

Aerobics, 6-7pm, The Barn. £2.50

Tuesdays

Cedars Club at the Clockhouse 9am - 4pm.

Career Guidance, 9am - 1pm at the Oxford College of Further Education Library, Blackbird Leys.

Step exercise, 10-11am, Leisure Centre.

After School Club: 3:15 - 4:45pm for 5 -12 yr olds, at The Dovecote. 5Op.

AfCa Drop in Session at the Holy Family Church Hall, 6 - 8:3Opm.

Boxercise, 7:30 - 8:3Opm, Leisure Centre.

Wednesdays

Cedars Club at the Clockhouse 9am - 4pm.

New Ol' Leys Lunchtime Club. 12 - 2pm. The Dovecote. All ages welcome. Also Credit Union collection and Toy Library.

After School Club: 3:15 - 4:45pm for 5 -12 yr olds, at The Dovecote. 5Op.

Oxford Community Education Group, study session for 9+ yr olds of Afro-Caribbean origin, term time only, 5:30-7:3Opm, at the Youth Centre.

Aerobics, 6-7pm, The Barn, £2.50.

Taekwon-Do, High Grades Session 6:30 -8:30pm, at the Barn. Adults £2.50. Juniors £2.

Use this page to tell other people about your event. Call Carol Baxter on 0410 588349

Thursdays

Career Guidance, 9am - 1pm at the Oxford College of Further Education Library, Blackbird Leys.

Body Blitz fitness, 10 - 11am, Leisure Centre.

Carers and Toddlers Group. 10 - 11:30am, The Dovecote. All welcome. 50p per session. Also Toy Library.

Step exercise, 11:15am - 12:15pm. Leisure Centre.

After School Club, 3:15 - 4:45pm. The Dovecote for ages 5 - 12. 50p per session.

Taekwon-Do, High Grades Session 6:30 -8:3Opm, at the Barn. Adults £2.50. Juniors £2.

Sin & Slim, fitness classes, BBL Leisure Centre, 7pm or at Cowley Reformed Church,Temple Road, 6:3Opm.

Fridays

Legs, Bums & Tums, 10 - 11am & 11:15am-12:15pm. Leisure Centre.

Freestyle Karate Club (all ages). 6 - 8pm, The Barn.

Bingo for Over 5Os, 7:30-9:3Opm. The Clockhouse.

Saturdays

Karate Club (ages 5-12), 10-1 1am, The Barn, £2.

Councillors Surgeries. Community Centre, 11-12 noon.

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